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# Economic and Social Council

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**Commission on Narcotic Drugs**
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Agenda item 9
**Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016**

**Israel, Peru and United States of America: revised draft resolution**

## Supporting recovery from substance use disorders

*The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,*

*Recognizing* that substance use disorders can result in chronic, relapsing conditions requiring, like other health conditions, treatment based on scientific evidence, support for those affected and, where indicated, governmental and community initiatives to promote recovery and facilitate reintegration,

*Noting* that individuals in recovery from substance use disorders, like those with other, chronic conditions, are at risk of relapse, particularly during and shortly after treatment, as well as for several years following treatment,

*Acknowledging* that supporting sustained recovery helps prevent relapse, facilitates early re-entry into treatment when needed and promotes long-term recovery outcomes and the health, well-being and safety of individuals, families, communities and States,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 54/5 of 25 March 2011, on promoting rehabilitation- and reintegration-oriented strategies in response to drug use disorders and their consequences that are directed at promoting health and social well-being among individuals, families and communities,

*Noting* that there are diverse understandings of recovery, all of which involve improvements to the quality of life of individuals,



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*Recognizing* that marginalization, stigmatizing attitudes, discrimination and fear of social, employment or legal repercussions may dissuade many who need help from seeking it and lead those who are in stable long-term recovery from a substance use disorder to avoid disclosure of their status as a person in recovery from addiction,

*Bearing in mind* that acknowledging and affirming recovery from substance use disorders may help to ensure a non-stigmatizing attitude towards those seeking help or in recovery, thereby contributing to the reduction of the adverse social, employment and public health consequences of abuse of drugs and dependence,

*Taking into account* that those in recovery, including adolescents and young adults, may contribute to supporting prevention efforts and promoting long-term recovery,

*Aware* of the importance of addressing substance use disorders as a public health concern,

*Noting* the importance of the privacy rights of patients and the protection of personal data from unauthorized access, as related to people affected by substance use disorders, to ensure that individuals are not discouraged from seeking help,

*Noting also* that it is important to promote and support recovery programmes and the ultimate reintegration of individuals in recovery, using scientific evidence-based practices, including among individuals incarcerated or, where appropriate, under drug-related criminal justice supervision,

*Recognizing* that efforts supporting recovery from substance use disorders need to be consistent with human rights obligations and be within the framework of the international drug control conventions,

*Welcoming* the ongoing work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in raising awareness of substance use disorders as a public health concern,

1. *Encourages* Member States to improve the understanding of substance use disorders and the importance of supporting sustained recovery and, where appropriate, the reintegration of those affected by substance use disorders through, inter alia, informational and educational materials;

2. *Invites* Member States, in accordance with their national legislation, to consider exploring means, as appropriate, to support those in recovery, to provide measures to ensure non-stigmatizing attitudes to those seeking help or in recovery, to help reduce marginalization and discrimination and to promote social reintegration, partnering with different levels of governmental authority and, where appropriate, with civil society and communities;

3. *Also invites* Member States, in accordance with domestic legal systems and national strategies, and where applicable, to consider reviewing, identifying and, where necessary, reforming policies, practices and laws in order to facilitate further access to recovery and reintegration services;

4. *Encourages* Member States to consider providing appropriate treatment and support to meet individual needs through the recovery process;

5. *Invites* Member States, through bilateral, regional and international cooperation, where appropriate, to consider collaborating in ensuring adequate

support to those in recovery through the provision of assistance, including technical assistance, upon request, in order to improve their ability to provide such services;

6. *Requests* Member States to facilitate exchanges on developing a chronic-care approach to the treatment of substance use disorders similar to approaches for other chronic conditions, and to support and sustain recovery programmes, as appropriate, in schools, universities, workplaces, communities and other domains;

7. *Invites* Member States to continue to gather scientific evidence on recovery and recovery-oriented programmes and to share this evidence;

8. *Also invites* Member States, multilateral institutions and others to share information on national and international experiences and best practices related to recovery programmes, recovery activities, and communities and organizations that support recovery, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations;

9. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to increase the dissemination of available information about recovery;

10. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to facilitate opportunities to share experiences on the implementation of the present resolution by Member States with the Commission at its fifty-eighth session;

11. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.